Raising the threshold amount for municipal competitive bids

HB 914 by Goodman/C. Harris

DIGEST:

HB 914 would have raised the threshold amount of purchases for which a city must seek competitive bids to \$15,000, up from the current \$10,000, regardless of the city's population. It would have required notice to be provided of the time and place that bids on a contract would be publicly opened and read.

HB 914 also would have exempted from bid requirements services performed by disabled persons.

GOVERNOR'S REASON FOR VETO:

"... The amount that cities save through the decreased administrative expense is not likely to outweigh their loss through the failure to seek competitive bids."

RESPONSE:

Rep. Toby Goodman, author of HB 914, said: "I am very surprised by this veto. A similar bill allowing independent school districts to make purchases up to \$25,000 without bids passed and was not vetoed. Why should school districts be allowed to and not municipalities?"

NOTES:

HB 914 passed the House on the Consent Calendar and was not analyzed in a *Daily Floor Report*.